

# Commander's Call Topics



**Feb. 25, 2011**

*"People matter ... lives matter. Overall, our Airmen and families are very resilient. We have to set that tone of resiliency culture within our units, within our communities."* – Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy [discussing](#) the repercussions of a force that fails to foster a culture of resiliency at the Air Force Association's 27th Annual Air War Symposium and Technology Exposition

## **FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS**

### **SecAF, CSAF provide FY12 budget details**

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz presented the Air Force's fiscal 2012 budget proposal to the House Armed Services Committee. Air Force officials are requesting \$150 billion in the baseline budget and \$16 billion in an overseas contingency operations supplemental appropriation. *"Our budget request represents a careful balance of resources among the Air Force core functions necessary to implement the president's National Security Strategy and between today's operations and investment for the future,"* the secretary said.

### **SecAF takes stock of progress, future challenges**

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley reviewed the service's priorities and underscored Air Force commitment to making the most of available resources in a challenging fiscal environment while [speaking](#) at the Air Force Association's 27th Annual Air Warfare Symposium and Technology Exposition.

### **Vice CSAF: Air Force must prepare for more complex, varied ops**

During remarks at the Air Force Association's 2011 Air Warfare Symposium, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Philip M. Breedlove said the Air Force must remain committed to the joint and coalition team, adaptable to an ever-changing battlefield, and keener about acquisition in response to a more restrained budget.

## **PERSONNEL ISSUES**

### **Stop loss pay application window closing March 4**

The deadline for eligible members or legally designated beneficiaries to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay is coming to a close March 4. For more information or to file a claim, go to [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss). Applicants who were serving in the Reserve or Guard at the time of stop loss can go to the Air Reserve Personnel Center website at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/>.

### **Air Force has new weapon in fight against Spice**

Air Force officials began drug testing Airmen Feb. 22 to determine whether they are using Spice -- the street term for a range of designer synthetic-cannabinoid products. With the implementation of testing, officials intend to send a very clear message: use Spice, and you may lose your career, end up in jail or both.

### **Air Force Network Integration Center officials launch IA education tools**

The new information assurance education tools include a robust community of practice, webinars and computer-based training. The initiatives are focused efforts to make on-the-job training faster and more efficient by enabling rapid access to timely information. While the tools are aimed at IA officers and program managers, they are accessible to any Airman who wants to learn more about IA. To learn more, visit <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/IA>.

## **FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **'Get Fit' page can trigger new you**

TRICARE officials have launched an updated ["Get Fit"](#) web page with a new section focusing on monthly healthy living tips through slide show presentations. The presentations provide suggestions for activities and health

information to help beneficiaries make healthier choices. Beneficiaries have the option to view or save the file, and there is also a healthy living tips archives page.

#### **TRICARE officials promote colorectal cancer screening**

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer among men and women in the United States. The beginning stages of colorectal cancer often have no symptoms. Because of this, [early screening](#) saves lives. For [TRICARE](#) Prime and Standard beneficiaries, there are no cost shares or co-pays for colorectal cancer screenings, as well as many other important preventive care services.

#### **DOD leaders outline health care, family services improvements**

The Defense Department has taken a number of recent steps to improve health care and family support services for military members and their families. These include quick implementation of the shift to electronic medical records; improving delivery of mental health services; and public awareness campaigns. From educational opportunities to spouse employment, DOD officials are also [expanding military family support programs](#) to better meet families' current needs, as well as to empower them for the challenges that lie ahead.

#### **Space-A travel: Did you know?**

Space-A flights are a unique benefit to U.S. service members, retirees and their families. Under the DOD travel program, unused seats on U.S. military and military-contracted commercial aircraft are made available to non-duty passengers on a space-available basis once official duty passengers and cargo have been accommodated. [Space-A travel](#) is free with the exception of customs and head tax fees on these aircraft.

### **FINANCES AND EDUCATION**

#### **'Military Saves' spotlights importance of saving**

Military Saves is a national campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings. Financial readiness is vital in the military since it's tied so closely to mission readiness as one of the pillars of personal readiness.

#### **Air Force Association scholarship and grant opportunities**

AFA is an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA has a variety of scholarships available for Airmen and their families. For more information, go to <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>.

## **RESOURCES**

#### ***AF.mil***

<http://www.af.mil>

#### ***Airman magazine***

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>

#### ***Air Force Community***

<http://www.afcommunity.af.mil/>

#### ***Air Force Outreach***

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/>

#### ***Military OneSource***

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

#### ***Military HOMEFRONT***

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

**Air Force Personnel Center**

<http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>  
<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

**Air Reserve Personnel Center**

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/>

**Department of Defense**

<http://www.defense.gov>

**Department of Defense News**

<http://www.defenselink.mil>

**TRICARE**

<http://www.tricare.mil>

**U.S. Government Web site**

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

**Employment Opportunities**

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

## **AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS**

March is **Women's History Month**, celebrating women's contributions to culture, history and society.

### **This Week in Air Force History**

**Feb. 28, 1991** – The Gulf War ends at 8 a.m. with a coalition-declared cease-fire. During the war, F-117A Nighthawks flew only 2 percent of the combat sorties but attacked 40 percent of Iraqi strategic targets.

**March 1, 1951** – The U.S. Air Force established its northernmost operational base, Thule Air Base, Greenland, 690 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

**March 2, 1949** – Lucky Lady II landed at Carswell AFB, Texas. The B-50 Superfortress completed the first nonstop, around-the-world flight in history, covering 23,452 miles in 94 hours and one minute.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>.

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